

# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE        | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/616,950   | 07/11/2003         | Markus Gewehr        | AM 200040           | 2161             |
| 26474 7590 02/19/2008<br>NOVAK DRUCE DELUCA + QUIGG LLP<br>1300 EYE STREET NW<br>SUITE 1000 WEST TOWER<br>WASHINGTON, DC 20005 |                    |                      | EXAMINER            |                  |
|  |                    |                      | QAZI, SABIHA NAIM   |                  |
|  |                    |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  | W.161.11. (2.0.1.) |                      | 1612                | •                |
| •  |                    |                      |                     |                  |
|  | •                  |                      | MAIL DATE           | DELIVERY MODE    |
| •  |                    |                      | 02/19/2008          | PAPER            |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. PATENT IN REEXAMINATION

GEWEHR ET AL. AM 200040

NOVAK DRUCE DELUCA + QUIGG LLP 1300 EYE STREET NW SUITE 1000 WEST TOWER WASHINGTON, DC 20005

7/11/2003

EXAMINER
Sabiha Qazi

ART UNIT PAPER

1612 20080214

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

#### **Commissioner for Patents**

Please find enclosed a copy of the Examiner's answer from which some references cited in section 8 has been removed. This was considered necessary as the rejections based on those references have been withdrawn. The only rejection on appeal is Seiverding et al. (US Patent 6,696,497).

#### Communication

10616950

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sabiha Qazi whose, telephone number is (571) 272-0622. The examiner can normally be reached on any business day except Wednesday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Krass Frederick can be reached on (571) 272-0580. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SABIHA QAZI, PH.D PRIMARY EXAMINER



Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 10/616,950

Filing Date: 7/11/20031

Appellant(s): GEWHR ET AL

MAILED FEB 1 9 2008

**GROUP 1600** 

James Remenick For Appellant

**EXAMINER'S ANSWER** 

This is in response to the appeal brief filed August 28, 2006 appealing from the Office action mailed February 28, 2006.

## (1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

## (2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings, which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

### (3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is incorrect. No status has been cited which claim is canceled, original or amended.

### (4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

## (5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

## (6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

#### WITHDRAWN REJECTIONS

The following rejection is not presented for review on appeal because the examiner has withdrawn them.

Rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CURTZE et al. (US Patent No. 6127570) is withdrawn because declaration has been filed.

Art Unit: 1612

## (7) Claims Appendix

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 contain(s) substantial errors as presented in the Appendix to the brief. Claims as written do not show the status of each claim, for example, amended, original or cancelled. Claim 3 has been cancelled.

#### (8) Evidence Relied Upon

6,696,497

SIEVERDING et al.

2-2004

## (9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground of rejection is applicable to the appealed claims:

#### **Double Patenting Rejection**

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

Application/Control Number: 10/616,950

Art Unit: 1612

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,696,497.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims of the US ' 297 are considered obvious since the term "comprising" is used in the instant invention.

The term "comprising" allows other additional components to be added. Instant claims are obvious because compound of formula (1) in claim 1 contains the same substituents.

Claim 1 of present application overlaps claim 1 of US '497 because at 5-position of benzophenone ring contain halogen wherein US '497 it is bromine (Br). Claims 2 and 4 of the present invention is same as in claim 1 of compound (a) of US '497. Method claimed in claim 1, 2 4 and 5 for controlling *Pseudocercosporella herpotrichoides* in wheat and barley overlaps with the method of claim 4 and 5 of US Patent '497.

The patent claims composition and method of controlling fungi by using 5-bromo 6-dimethyl-2,4',5',6'-tetramethoxybenzophenone.

Application/Control Number: 10/616,950

Art Unit: 1612

The instant claims differ from the claims of the cited US Patents in that US '497 claims specific second components for the fungicidal composition and method for controlling fungi. In the instant claims, a specific second ingredient has not been named. However, the term "comprising" allows a second ingredient to be added. The method of claim 4 is for "controlling growth of fungi" which includes *Pseudocercosporella herpotrichoide*.

Therefore, the instant invention is considered obvious over the claims of the cited US Patent '497.

## (10) Response to Argument

- Appellant's argument and declaration filed on January 19, 2007 has been fully considered and was found persuasive therefore rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CURTZE et al. (US Patent No. 6,127,570) is withdrawn.
- Appellants argue that second component (b) is specific which is not claimed in the present application. Examiner disagrees because he term "comprising" allows the addition of other ingredients. The compounds of US'497 is same as presently claimed.
   A method of claim 4 is for "controlling growth of fungi" which includes Pseudocercosporella herpotrichoide.
- Terminal disclaimer has been filed for U.S. Patent No. 6,521,628 and U.S. Patent No. 6,734,202 therefore double patenting rejection was withdrawn. DP rejection over US
   Patent 6,696,497 is maintained because no disclaimer has been filed.

• Appellants argue that second component (b) is specific which is not claimed in the

present application. Examiner disagrees because the term "comprising" allows the

addition of other components. The compounds of US'497 is same as presently claimed.

A method of claim 4 is for "controlling growth of fungi" which includes

Pseudocercosporella herpotrichoide.

• Double Patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public

policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper

timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible

harassment by multiple assignees.

• Examiner notes that Terminal Disclaimer has been filed on US '202 and "628. Both of

them contain a second specific component as in US '497.

Even in a case where the reference does not teach the same use of the composition, the

two different intended uses are not distinguishable in terms of the composition, see In re

Thuau, 57 USPQ 324; Ex parte Douros, 163 USPQ 667; and In re Craige, 89 USPQ 393.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related

Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

Art Unit: 1616

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

Sabiha N. Qazi, Ph.D.

SABIHA QAZI, PH.D PRIMARY EXAMINER

(Primary Examiner Art Unit 1616)

Conferees:

Johan Richter, Ph.D.

(SPE Art Unit 1616)

Michael Hartley

(SPE Art Unit 1618)

MICHAEL G. HARTLEY SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER